

THESE MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL MINUTES AND HAVE NOT YET BEEN APPROVED BY THE VILLAGE OF
CARTHAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Regular Meeting of the Village of Carthage Board of Trustees
Held in the Board Room of the Carthage Municipal Building
March 19, 2012

ATTENDANCE:

Members: President G. Wayne McIlroy, Deputy President Michael Astafan, Trustees Kathleen Latremore, and Rebecca Vary. Excused Trustee Linda Smith-Spencer.

Guests: Elaine Avallone, Johnson Newspapers; Elaine Clarke, eight Participation in Government Students, and one guest.

CALL TO ORDER:

President McIlroy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Trustee Vary and seconded by Deputy President Astafan to approve the minutes of the March 5, 2012 regular meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Ms. Clarke asked the board to consider placing signs around the Village regarding littering; concentrating mostly at the Village Park.

Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Latremore to have DPW Superintendent, Daniel Trembley look into placing no littering signs at the Village Park. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Proof of notice having been furnished regarding the public hearing to consider a local law to impose certain restrictions in having dogs on Village property to include certain public events was called to order at 7:12 pm. President McIlroy asked if there was anyone present who wished to speak on the law and Ms. Clarke asked for clarification regarding the proposed law. President McIlroy and Attorney Gebo explained the proposed local law in greater detail. Ms. Clarke stated she walks her dog at the Village Park and voiced her concerns regarding not being able to have her dog within twenty-five feet of the playground entrance. Ms. Clarke stated she and other residents walk their dogs on the walkway near the playground which is closer than twenty-five feet. Motion by President McIlroy to amend the draft of the local law to read within five-feet instead of twenty-five feet asked for a vote based on the change, Deputy President Astafan, Nay; Trustee Vary, Nay; Trustee Latremore, Aye; and President McIlroy, Aye. Motion was not carried due to tie vote.

CORRESPONDENCE:

President McIlroy read the invitation to attend the JCJDC Members' Breakfast Meeting at 8:00 a.m. on Friday, March, 30, 2012.

President McIlroy summarized the request received from Merrell and Merrell representing Larry Walseman II for negotiating and compromising Village invoice dated January 24, 2012 in the amount of \$886.00 for snow removal performed by DPW employees on Mr. Walsemann II property. Merrell and Merrell proposed the Village to accept \$100.00 for payment of this service. Attorney Gebo advised that the fees are imposed to deter residents from not taking care of their properties. The consensus of the board was to deny the request and have Attorney Gebo respond to the request citing the statues within the Village Code Book.

Barry Miner, Commander of the American Legion invited the board to partake in the Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 28, 2012 and Deputy President Astafan will attend.

Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Latremore to approve the request of the Carthage Free Library to store miscellaneous decorations in the Municipal Building basement for a couple of months while they complete their renovations. Motion carried unanimously.

President McIlroy read correspondence received from our insurance company Haylor, Freyer & Coon, Inc. of their intent to close the Carthage office and merge with their office in Watertown to be completed by July 1, 2012. Deputy President Astafan suggested we request proposals from Carthage based insurance companies and President McIlroy confirmed that we had planned to do so prior to this announcement.

President McIlroy summarized the formal complaint submitted by Sonny Carter regarding a dangerous tree at 702 South James Street. CEO Robert Ball issued a violation notice and submitted a memo to the board which summarized the complaint.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary to allow the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 789 to place poppy canisters in businesses within the Village limits to coincide with their Annual Poppy Days for the month of May, 2012. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Latremore to allow Justice Shettleton to use left over JCAP grant funds of \$2,684.69 to purchase surveillance cameras to be placed at both entrances of the Municipal Building for a total cost of \$3,578.00 and for the remaining funds to be transferred from office supplies to equipment in the amount of \$893.31. Motion carried unanimously with Trustee Vary abstaining.

President McIlroy stated Ed Olley approached him regarding changing parking at the Carthage Free Library. Attorney Gebo stated their may need to be a public hearing depending on what they are proposing. The consensus of the board is for Mr. Olley to submit a proposal and diagram for their consideration.

President McIlroy was approached by Teri Ellis who is interested in spearheading a Flea Market on Saturdays. She will bring a proposal to the board for their consideration.

OLD BUSINESS:

Carthage Coordinated Development Group, LLC is in the process of having their attorney develop the paperwork necessary for the Village to acquire the Village Green to include the maintenance of the property. Attorney Gebo spoke with Tim Farley who is finalizing the paperwork to complete the transfer of property. No action was taken therefore the board requested the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this issue over until the April 2, 2012 regular board meeting.

National Grid submitted an easement request for line relocation near Cemetery Street for safety purposes. Mark Gebo, Village Attorney; Michael Astafan, Village Deputy President; and John McHugh, Community Development Coordinator met with National Grid on February 15, 2012 to discuss the easement request. National Grid explored other options for the guy wires and submitted a revised map for the boards' consideration. The revised plan means that there will be no facilities on the Village's property. After discussion, the board wished to go to the site to see the revisions prior to signing an easement request for trimming purposes and line maintenance. No action was taken therefore the board requested the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this issue over until the April 2, 2012 regular board meeting.

Nathalie Zecher submitted a request for consideration of the Disability Tax Exemption for Real Property of Persons with Disabilities and Limited Incomes from Nathalie Zecher. Attorney Gebo advised that Robert Ball, Code Enforcement Officer (CEO) is currently looking into this exemption to provide the board with more information prior to making a decision. Mr. Ball submitted the statistics he provided to the Town of Wilna board regarding the potential implications of this exemption to the Town. Attorney Gebo advised that surrounding Towns and Villages within Jefferson County do not implement this exemption. Attorney Gebo further advised that the board had until March 1, 2013 to decide because that is when the new tax rolls will be submitted. Not action was taken therefore the board requested the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this issue over until the April 2, 2012 regular board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Village Justice Report for the period 01/01/12 – 01/31/12 was review and there were no questions.

President McIlroy summarized the memo from the Clerk/Treasurer regarding a meeting with President McIlroy, Chief Rockhill, and the Clerk/Treasurer regarding Village Dog Control. In the interim, Chief Rockhill agreed to have Village Police Officers pickup stray dogs but they will need a dog crate and use of a DPW truck to transport them to Jefferson County Dog Shelter. Deputy President Astafan stated that he researched the agreement the Town of Wilna has with Jefferson County regarding dog control and it specifically excludes Article 7 which enforces the leash law. President McIlroy would like to further research the dog control issue with Jefferson County. The board was not in favor of Village Police Officers transporting dogs to Jefferson County Dog Shelter and prefer to address the dog control issue on a case by case basis.

Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Vary to approve Chief Rockhill's request to purchase a 2013 Ford Police Interceptor Sedan AWD and "piggy backing" on the Ontario County contract of which prior approval was received and utilizing allocated funds within the Police Car Reserve for a total of \$33,765.50. Motion carried unanimously.

The Treasurers Report was reviewed and there were no questions. The General Fund cash balance is \$865,790.06 with Reserves of \$149,917.14; Water Fund cash balance is \$162,802.58 with Reserves of \$46,798.71 and the Sewer Fund cash balance is \$65,935.30 with Reserves of \$30,459.74 the Joint Fund cash balance is \$203,554.14 with Reserves of \$388,055.46.

Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Latremore to approve payment of payrolls and bills as follows: General Fund P/R 03/08/12 and 03/15/12 \$11,319.81; Water Fund, P/R P/R 03/08/12 and 03/15/12 \$3762.47; Sewer Fund, P/R P/R 03/08/12 and 03/15/12 \$5,107.27; Joint Fund P/R 03/07/12 \$10,325.64 and General Fund Abstracts, \$13,867.53; Water Fund Abstracts, \$35.97; Sewer Fund Abstracts, \$0; and Joint Fund Abstracts, \$0. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESIDENT McILROY UPDATE:

President McIlroy scheduled a budget workshop meeting for Tuesday, March 20, 2012 at 6:15 p.m. at the Carthage Municipal Building. President McIlroy stated on Wednesday, March 21, 2012 there will be a WPCF budget workshop at 10:00 a.m. at the Carthage Municipal Building and a WPCF meeting at 4:15 p.m. at the West Carthage Municipal Building. President McIlroy reminded the Trustees that the Clerks Office will be sending an informational flyer with the water and sewer bills on April 2, 2012 and asked if they had any suggestions. Trustee Latremore suggested reminding residents not to litter, to pick up after their dogs, and to keep sidewalks free of debris.

Motion by Trustee Vary and seconded by Trustee Latremore to have Advanced Business Systems destroy two computer towers located within the Clerks Office which are no longer working. Motion carried unanimously.

ATTORNEY GEBO UPDATE:

Attorney Gebo stated his items covered throughout the meeting.

LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS:

Deputy President Astafan stated the Police Committee will meet next week regarding possibly restructuring the Police Department.

MEDIA QUESTIONS:

Ms. Avallone reported that Tiffany Watts will be leaving Johnsons Newspapers and that she will be covering our meetings. Ms. Avallone asked who the contact was for the American Legion; Barry Miner and where National Grid is requesting the easement; near Cemetary Street.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Deputy President Astafan to enter Executive Session at 8:20 p.m. to discuss one personnel issue.

Regular Session resumed at 8:45 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Latremore to adjourn at 8:46 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristy L. O'Shaughnessy
Village Clerk/Treasurer